

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FORM GILA RIVER INDIAN
COMMUNITY
PROSPECTIVE LEASES AND PERMITS ON COMMUNITY TRUST
LANDS**

This Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) is authorized pursuant to the Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations of 2014. Unless otherwise noted, terms included in this EAF have the meanings set forth in section 003 of the Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations of 2014.

This EAF is designed to assist the Gila River Indian Community (Community) in determining whether a Lease of Community Trust Lands or Permit will have a Significant Effect on the environment. Please complete the entire form. Answers to these questions will be considered as part of the Lease or Permit application and all or parts of the EAF may be available for public review. For purposes of this EAF, "Applicant" refers to a prospective Lessee or Permittee.

Authorization Requested: X Lease or Permit

Name of Action: Lease to Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.

Location of Action (include address and/or description, as appropriate):

599 W. Seed Farm Rd., Sacaton (Intersection of Seed Farm Rd. and Bluebird Rd.)

Name of Applicant: Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.

Address: 7065 W. Allison Road, Box 5015

City: Chandler State AZ Zip 85226

Telephone: 520-296-8823

Email: rspencer@gilarivertel.com

Description of Action (add pages as necessary):

Lease for existing Wireless Communications Facility including a tower, communications hut and generator and, over time, possible additional Wireless Communications Facilities within Leased Premises.

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Physical setting of Project Site, both developed and undeveloped areas. (The Project Site is the area to be leased or the location of the permitted action.)

1. Present Land Use (check all that apply)

Industrial Commercial Residential Agricultural

Other: Wireless Communications Facility (Cellular Tower)

2. Acreage of Project Site: 1.033 acres

3. Features within Project Site (check all that apply)

Agriculture Water Surface Area Vegetation Unvegetated Areas (earth or rock)

Roads, Buildings, other Paved Surfaces

Other: _____

4. Any Streams, Washes, Surface Waters, Wetlands, Irrigation Ditches, Drainage or Ditches within or Contiguous to Project Site: Yes No

If yes, describe and explain:

Two small (40x30 foot) areas where surface water drainage has been channeled on southern edge of property.

5. Is Project Site located in a floodplain: Yes No

6. Is the Project Site served by existing utilities: Yes No

If **YES**, does sufficient capacity exist to allow for proposed use: Yes No

If **NO**, explain how utility needs will be fulfilled:

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Physical Dimensions and Scale of Project:

- a. Area to be developed: 1.033 acres initially; 1.033 acres ultimately.
- b. Project acreage to remain undeveloped: 0 acres.
- c. If Project is an expansion, percentage of expansion proposed: %
- d. Dimensions of structures to be developed (height /width/length):

Antennas will be added to existing Tower, as well as small communications huts and generators; future WCF may also be added depending on need.

2. Natural Materials (*i.e.*, rock, earth, etc.) and Fill:

- a. Will natural materials be removed from the site: X No Yes

If **YES**, identify materials to be removed and amounts (tons/cubic yards):

GRTI has no plans to remove materials.

- b. Will fill material be brought onto Project site: X No Yes

If **YES**, identify fill type and amounts (tons/cubic yards):

GRTI has no plans to bring in fill material.

3. Natural of acres of vegetation to be removed from the site: 0 acres

4. Transportation

- a. Identify roads to be used to access Project during construction and operations:

Seed Farm Rd and Bluebird Rd.

- b. Maximum vehicle trips generated per hour (upon completion): 1 x week (normal operation) and 2-3 x week during atypical situations (repairs).

- c. Parking: 0 Parking spaces required: 0 Parking spaces to be provided.

5. Construction

- a. If single phase project, anticipated period of construction: N/A months
- b. If multi-phase project: Number of phases: N/A
Construction duration (including estimated commencement and completion dates for each phase):

Installation and construction of Wireless Communications Facilities will occur as requested by carriers.

- c. Will construction require relocating existing facilities or buildings: ___ Yes X No

If yes, explain:

6. Waste

- a. Describe types of wastes (*i.e.*, solid, liquid, and hazardous) and approximate waste amounts that the Project will generate. Also indicate whether wastes will be stored on-site and describe how wastes will be disposed of or treated.

None.

C. IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

For each of the resource categories below, indicate whether the proposed project will have: (i) no effect; (ii) a minor to moderate effect; or (iii) a significant effect. In addition, explain, and where appropriate, provide data or analyses, to support your effect determination.

1. Historic and Cultural Resources

(Applicants must consult with the Gila River Indian Community Cultural Resources Management Program and the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer prior to submitting this EAF.)

- a. Effects on structure or site listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- b. Effects on archeological site or resource of cultural or religious significance to the Gila River Indian Community? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- c. Limitation on access to and/or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites, or physical impacts to such sites? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant

2. Plants and Animals

- a. Effects on any federally-listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- b. Effects on any other wildlife or wildlife habitat? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- c. Effects on vegetation? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- d. Introduction or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant

Small areas of weeds may be removed.

3. Water Quality

- a. Effects on surface waters? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant
- b. Effects on groundwater? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant
- c. Effects on irrigation or drainage ditches or canals? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant
- d. Effects on drainage or erosion? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant

4. Air Quality

- a. Will project result in air emissions? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant
- b. Effects on air quality? None; ___ Minor/Moderate; ___ Significant

5. Agricultural Land Resources

Interference with existing agricultural uses or irrigation? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant

6. Aesthetic Resources

- a. Aesthetic effects? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- b. Effects on views from adjoining land uses? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- c. Effects on views or landscapes of cultural or religious significance to the Community? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant

The Lease site is now hosts a cellular tower. Wireless Communications Facilities (tower, antenna, communications huts) are visible. Additional Wireless Communications Facilities will be added to this site and will be visible to passers-by.

7. Transportation

- a. Effect on nearby roads? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- b. Traffic effects? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant
- c. New transportation infrastructure required? None; Minor/Moderate; Significant

8. Noise and Odor

a. Project result in objectionable odors, noise or vibration during operations?

X None; ___Minor/Moderate; ___Significant

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS EAF IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENTS CONTAINED HEREIN CONSTITUTE GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OF A LEASE OR PERMIT APPLICATION.

James D. Meyers
Signature

1/16/2020
Date

James Meyers
Name

CEO/General Manager,
Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.
Title / Position